

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims pending in the instant application are numbered 1-73. Claims 1-73 are presently subject to a restriction requirement. Claims 13-16, 18, 23, 28, 30-47, 51, 53, 57 and 69-73 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-12, 17, 19-22, 24-27, 48-50, 52, 54-56 and 58-68 remaining pending for consideration. The Applicant respectfully requests that the instant application be reconsidered in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

Election of Species

The Office Action mailed March 23, 2005 at page 2, paragraph 1, indicates that the "application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: species A, corresponding to Fig. 3; species B, corresponding to Fig. 4; species C, corresponding to Fig. 5; and species D, corresponding to Fig. 6."

In order to advance prosecution of the instant application without delay, the Applicant hereby provisionally elects species A, corresponding to Fig. 3, as identified in the March 23, 2005 Office Action. In so doing, the Applicant hereby withdraws claims 13-16, 18, 23, 28, 30-47, 51, 53, 57 and 69-73 from consideration such that claims 1-12, 17, 19-22, 24-27, 48-50, 52, 54-56 and 58-68 remaining pending for consideration. However, if upon allowance of a generic claim, the Applicant reserves the right to request consideration of withdrawn claims or additional claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR § 1.141.


CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). Any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Please credit any overpayment to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 4-22-05


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 22, 2005.
(Date of Deposit)

Luci M. Arevalo

(Typed or printed name of person mailing correspondence)



(Signature of person mailing correspondence)